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ABSTRACT

This bibliography was prepared for middle school and high school teachers participating in a conference at New Mexico State University (July 14-18, 1993), to assist in research and pedagogical endeavors in the teaching of Spanish to native speakers. It is presented in two parts. The first is a bibliography edited by Francisco J. Ronquillo, which includes citations of materials, in these categories: Spanish language textbooks and readers (23 citations); general bibliography (95 citations); video recordings (18 citations); computer-assisted instruction (8 citations); dictionaries (5 citations); curriculum guides (2 citations); and Chicano literature (8 citations). The second part includes photocopies of articles by Isabel Schon and annotated bibliographies on science materials, children's literature, and materials on Mexico published in Spanish. (MSE)

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Selected Bibliography of Spanish for Native Speakers Sources

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Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities
for the grant project
"Teaching Spanish to Southwest Hispanic Students"
Summer Conference July 14-18, 1993

PREFACE

The **Selected Bibliography of Spanish for Native Speaker Sources** has been compiled by the Project Director of the National Endowment for the Humanities 1993 Summer Conference "Teaching Spanish to Southwest Hispanic Students" which had as its focus training thirty middle school and high school teachers from Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas and Utah to teach Spanish to Spanish-speaking bilinguals.

This bibliography has been prepared for the thirty middle school and high school teachers who were participants in the five day conference hosted by New Mexico State University, July 14-18, 1993 to assist them in their research and pedagogical endeavors in the field of Spanish for native speakers.

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Bibliography edited by Francisco J. Ronquillo D.
New Mexico State University

SPANISH BOOKS AND SOURCES
RECOMMENDED FOR
SPANISH SPEAKING CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS

Libros de Ciencia en Español

Consider these science trade books recommended for Spanish-speaking students.

By Isabel Schon

SPANISH-SPEAKING CHILdren of all ages can learn about the world of science and technology through a wonderful variety of well-written, well-designed books. In contrast to those published just a few years ago, books available today will delight teachers, parents, and librarians as well as Spanish-speaking scientists-to-be. These books compare in reader appeal and physical format to ones long available in English.

As a guide for teachers and librarians, the selection that follows lists recent, noteworthy Spanish-language books in science. I have provided a tentative grade level for each series, but the individual student's Spanish reading ability, interest, and purpose will determine the appropriate level more accurately.

ANIMALS

ACTIVIDADES DE LOS ANIMALES (ANIMALS' ACTIVITIES). Jane Burton. Translated by Miguel A. Lafuente Rosales. Editorial Luis Vives, Spain. (Grades 3–6) 24pp. each. 1991. $6.30 each. As they read the books in this series, children will see how animals learn, eat, talk, and fight; how they stay safe, cool, and clean; and how they maintain their body temperature. Excellent closeup photographs in color and clear, interesting text make this series, originally published in Great Britain in 1970, a fascinating way to learn about animals. Simple subject indexes and glossaries add further to each book. Titles include **LOS ANIMALES APRENDEN (HOW ANIMALS LEARN)**, ISBN 84-263-2066-X; **LOS ANIMALES COMEN (HOW ANIMALS EAT)**, ISBN 84-263-2069-4; **LOS ANIMALES HABLAN (HOW ANIMALS TALK)**, ISBN 84-263-2068-6; **LOS ANIMALES LUCHAN (HOW ANIMALS FIGHT)**, ISBN 84-263-2067-8; **MANTENERSE A SALVO (STAYING SAFE)**, ISBN 84-263-2065-1; **MANTENERSE FRESCOS (STAYING COOL)**, ISBN 84-263-2063-5; **MANTENERSE LIMPIOS (STAYING CLEAN)**, ISBN 84-263-2062-7; and **MANTENERSE TEMPLADOS (MAINTAINING BODY TEMPERATURE)**, ISBN 84-263-2064-3.

DESCÚBRELOS (DISCOVER THEM). Plaza and Janés Editores, Spain. (Grades 1–3) 21pp. each. 1991. $9.95 each. Through full-page photographs, drawings in color, and easy-to-read descriptions, young readers learn about high-interest topics. All the books in this series provide simple, attractive introductions to science-related subject matter. Titles include **ANIMALES DE GRANJA (FARM ANIMALS)**, ISBN 84-01-31298-1; **ANIMALES DEL ZOO (ZOO ANIMALS)**, ISBN 84-01-31300-7; **ANIMALES DOMÉSTICOS (PETS)**, ISBN 84-01-31304-X; **CAMIONES (TRUCKS)**, ISBN 84-01-31302-3; **COCHES (CARS)**, ISBN 84-01-31330-9; **DINOSAURIOS (DINOSAURS)**, ISBN 84-01-31332-5; and **EXCAVADORES Y VOLQUETES (DIGGERS AND DUMPERS)**, ISBN 84-01-31336-8.

EL FASCINANTE MUNDO DE (THE FASCINATING WORLD OF . . .). Maria Angels Julivert. Parramón Ediciones, Spain. (Grades 4–7) 30pp. each. 1991, 1992. $7.40 each. The fascinating worlds of bees, spiders, beavers, moles, ants, and butterflies come to life in these appealing books. Full-page color drawings and well-written narratives explain basic facts about the life cycles of these animals. Each book includes a glossary of useful terms. Titles include **LAS ABEJAS (BEES)**, illustrated by Carlos de Miguel, ISBN 84-342-1187-4; **LAS ARAÑAS (SPIDERS)**, illustrated by Estudio Marcel Socías, ISBN 84-342-1347-8; **LOS CASTORES Y LOS TOPOS (BEAVERS AND MOLES)**, illustrated by Marcel Socías, ISBN 84-342-1349-4; **LAS HORMIGAS (ANTS)**, illustrated by Marcel Socías, ISBN 84-342-1188-2; and **LAS MARIPOSAS (BUTTERFLIES)**, illustrated by Francisco Arredondo, ISBN 84-342-1189-0.

LA FAMILIA DEL CHIMPANCÉ (THE CHIMPANZEE FAMILY BOOK). Jane Goodall. Photographs by Michael Neugebauer. Sitesa, Mexico. (Grades 5–8) 68pp. 1991. $10. Originally published in 1989 by the Jane Goodall Institute for Wildlife Research, Education and Conservation, this

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF BOOKS IN SPANISH FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

attractive paperback book introduces readers to a family of wild chimpanzees from Gombe National Park, Tanzania, in eastern Africa. Candid photographs in color and a fluid narrative describe their habitat and characteristics. It ends with the author's plea to protect chimpanzees in other parts of the world. As an introduction to chimpanzees, this one is hard to beat.

CONSERVATION

LOS SECRETOS DE LOS ANTÍPODAS (THE SECRETS OF THE ANTIPODES). Paula Diperna. ISBN 84-348-3530-4. **LOS SECRETOS DE LA AMAZONÍA (THE SECRETS OF THE AMAZON).** Pamela Stacey and David O. Brown. ISBN 84-348-3529-0. Translated from the French by Catherine Tussy. Ediciones SM, Spain. (Grades 5–8) 44pp. each. 1992. $10.95 each. Spectacular, full-page, color photographs and a straightforward text describe the natural environment and popular traditions of the Maoris of New Zealand and the inhabitants of the Amazon region in South America. Especially appealing are the beautiful views of native flora and fauna. Originally published in France, both books emphasize the importance of conservation and the threats that economic development poses to these regions.

ENCYCLOPEDIC SERIES

LA ATMÓSFERA Y EL TIEMPO (WEATHER). Brian Cosgrove. ISBN 84-372-3759-9. **REPTILES (REPTILES).** Colin McCarthy. ISBN 84-372-3761-0. Altea, Spain. (Grades 4–9) 64pp. each. 1991. $16.50 each. Like previous titles in this outstanding large-format series (originally published in Great Britain as Eyewitness Encyclopedia), these books contain numerous excellent closeup photographs, charts and drawings in color, and concise, clear explanations. As attractive, easy-to-understand introductions to numerous topics, these titles are difficult to surpass.

ME PRIMER LIBRO DE PASTELERÍA (MY FIRST BAKING BOOK). Helen Drew. ISBN 84-272-1704-8. 48pp. **MI PRIMER LIBRO DE ECOLOGÍA (MY FIRST GREEN BOOK).** Angela Wilkes. ISBN 84-272-1705-6. 48pp. **MI PRIMER LIBRO DE FIESTAS (MY FIRST PARTY BOOK).** Angela Wilkes. ISBN 84-272-1706-4. 48pp. **MI PRIMER LIBRO DE PALABRAS (MY FIRST WORD BOOK).** Angela Wilkes. ISBN 84-272-3239-X. 64pp. each. Editorial Molino, Spain. (Grades 4–8) 1991. $19.55 each. Like their predecessors, these attractive, large-format publications feature excellent color photographs and simple, easy-to-follow, step-by-step directions that will encourage children to experiment. *Mi primer libro de pasteleria* includes simple baking recipes that children can try at home. *Mi primer libro de ecologia* shows how young people can contribute to protect the environment. *Mi primer libro de fiestas* includes fun ideas for children's parties. *Mi primer libro de palabras* includes photographs and illustrations of 1,000 words commonly used by children. (This is the only title in the series for much younger children.) This outstanding series was originally published by Dorling Kindersley Limited, London, in 1991.

NATURE

MUNDO MARAVILLOSO (MARVELOUS WORLD). Gallimard Jeunesse. Translated by Paz Barroso. Ediciones SM, Spain. (Grades 2–4) 42pp. each. 1991, 1992. $9.95 each. These well-conceived books, originally published in France, introduce young readers to airplanes, life under the Earth, various means of transportation, flowers, eggs, ladybirds, and the weather. Scientists-to-be will appreciate the acetate pages providing various views of the same illustration, such as the outside and inside of a car, airplane, flower, egg, and so on. Some of the illustrations and text are too small for younger readers, but the appealing format and illustrations and the simple texts make these books truly special. Titles include **EL AVIÓN (THE AIRPLANE),** illustrated by Donald Grant, ISBN 84-348-3536-3; **BAJO LA TIERRA (UNDER THE EARTH),** illustrated by Danièle Bour, ISBN 84-348-3469-3; **EL COCHE, EL CAMIÓN, LA BICICLETA, LA MOTO (THE CAR, THE BUS, THE BICYCLE, THE MOTORCYCLE),** illustrated by Sophie Kniffke, ISBN 84-348-3472-3; **LA FLOR (THE FLOWER),** illustrated by René Mettler, ISBN 84-348-3537-1; **EL HUEVO (THE EGG),** illustrated by René Mettler, ISBN 84-348-3468-5; **LA MARIQUITA (THE LADYBIRD),** illustrated by Sylvaine Pérols, ISBN 84-348-3467-7; and **EL TIEMPO (THE WEATHER),** illustrated by Sophie Kniffke, ISBN 84-348-3470-7.

EXPLOREMOS LA NATURALEZA (EXPLORING NATURE). Jean-Baptiste de Panafieu. Illustrated by Francois Crozat and others. Rialp Junior, Spain. (Grades 4–8) 159pp. ISBN 84-321-2882-1. 1992. $22. Children will find this guide most useful and informative as they learn to observe and discover nature. Through brief narratives, clear charts, and simple illustrations, readers are exposed to numerous experiments and activities that they can easily do at the seashore, in the mountains, and in the countryside—gathering, conserving, or collecting leaves, algae, feathers, and minerals. The only weakness of this otherwise outstanding guide are several awkward illustrations that are more condescending than cute.

FRUTAS TROPICALES (TROPICAL FRUITS). Clara Inés Olaya. Illustrated by Marcela Cabrera. Banco del Libro, Venezuela. (Grades 6–10) 77pp. ISBN 980-257-072-9. 1991. $9.95. The history, characteristics, and special uses of 31 tropical fruits, most of them indigenous to Latin America, are presented in this unassuming paperback publication. Each fruit is described in approximately half a page of text and rather dull black-and-white (and a few color) drawings. Despite lackluster illustrations, this is an informative guide to tropical plants, flowers, and fruits, emphasizing the many contributions of pre-Columbian civilizations.

MUNDOS SECRETOS (SECRET WORLDS). Kim Taylor. Translated by Miguel A. Lafuente Rosales. Editorial Luis Vives, Spain. (Grades 4–7) 24pp. each. 1991. $6.30 each. The secret world of nature is explained to young readers through excellent, detailed color photographs and informative text. Originally published in Great Britain in 1989, this appealing series discusses natural events not easily observed, such as plants eating insects, spiders carrying their infants, and butterflies seeing at night. Subject indexes complement each book. Titles include **DEMASIADO INTELIGENTE PARA VERLO (TOO INTELLIGENT TO BE SEEN)**, ISBN 84-263-2047-3; **DEMASIADO LENTO PARA VERLO (TOO SLOW TO BE SEEN)**, ISBN 84-263-2046-5; **DEMASIADO RÁPIDO PARA VERLO (TOO FAST TO BE SEEN)**, ISBN 84-263-2048-1; **OCULTO BAJO EL AGUA (HIDDEN UNDER WATER)**, ISBN 84-263-2044-9; **OCULTO BAJO LA TIERRA (HIDDEN UNDERGROUND)**, ISBN 84-263-2043-0; **OCULTO EN EL INTERIOR (HIDDEN INSIDE)**, ISBN 84-263-2041-4; and **OCULTO EN EL OSCURIDAD (HIDDEN IN DARKNESS)**, ISBN 84-263-2042-2.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

MIS LIBROS DE CIENCIA (MY SCIENCE BOOKS). Neil Ardley. Translated by José Antonio Bravo. Emeka Editores, Spain. (Grades 3–6) 29pp. each. 1991. $11.50 each. This attractive series exposes children to various scientific facts through simple experiments with household items. Clear photographs and easy-to-follow instructions provide step-by-step explanations of each project. Children will enjoy learning about air, color, electricity, magnets, light, plants, and sound through these fun activities. Spanish-speaking children in the U.S. should be told that *judías* is the Spanish word used in Spain for kidney beans. Titles include **MIS LIBROS DE CIENCIA: EL AIRE (MY SCIENCE BOOK OF AIR)**, ISBN 84-7368-106-1; **MIS LIBROS DE CIENCIA: EL COLOR (MY SCIENCE BOOK OF COLOR)**, ISBN 84-7368-105-3; **MIS LIBROS DE CIENCIA: LA ELECTRICIDAD (MY SCIENCE BOOK OF ELECTRICITY)**, ISBN 84-7368-123-1; **MIS LIBROS DE CIENCIA: LOS IMANES (MY SCIENCE BOOK OF MAGNETS)**, ISBN 84-7368-121-5; **MIS LIBROS DE CIENCIA: LA LUZ (MY SCIENCE BOOK OF LIGHT)**, ISBN 84-7368-104-5; **MIS LIBROS DE CIENCIA: LAS PLANTAS (MY SCIENCE BOOK OF GROWTH)**, ISBN 84-7368-120-7; and **MIS LIBROS DE CIENCIA: EL SONIDO (MY SCIENCE BOOK OF SOUND)**, ISBN 84-7368-122-3.

TECHNOLOGY

CURIOSIDADES DE LA CIENCIA (STRANGE AND AMAZING WORLDS). Celeste Ediciones, Spain. (Grades 4–7) 72pp. each. 1992. $16.50 each. This excellent series, originally published in the United Kingdom in 1991, introduces readers to numerous discoveries and inventions, from the world of printing to space travel to life forms found in the ocean depths. Spectacular photographs in color, clear charts and diagrams, and well-designed graphics accompanied by interesting text and notes make these books hard to resist. Easy-to-use indexes make the series even more useful. Titles include **INVENTOS Y DESCUBRIMIENTOS (DISCOVERY AND INVENTIONS)**, by Geoff Endacott, ISBN 84-7553-28-1; **OCÉANOS (OCEANS)**, by Philip Whitfield, ISBN 84-87553-27-3.

INGENIEROS EN ACCÍON (ENGINEERS IN ACTION). Translated by Genís Pascual. Ediciones B, Spain. (Grades 5–8) 32pp. each. 1992. $12.50 each. Through diagrams, drawings, color photographs, and clear explanations, this series, originally published in Great Britain in 1988, shows how designers, engineers, and technicians work together to produce airplanes, space rockets, and supercars. Each title discusses special problems that production teams must solve, such as how to make faster airplanes or more powerful car engines. A glossary and subject index add to the value of these technical books. Titles include **AVÍON (AIRLINER)**, by Nigel Cawthorne, ISBN 84-406-2746-7; **COHETE ESPACIAL (SPACE ROCKET)**, by Tim Furness, ISBN 84-406-2747-5; and **SUPERCOCHE (SUPERCAR)**, by Mike Trier, ISBN 84-406-2745-9.

Dealers of Books in Spanish for Children and Young Adults

Adler's Foreign Books
915 Foster St.
Evanston, IL 60201-3199

Aims International Books, Inc.
7709 Hamilton Ave.
Cincinnati, OH 45211

Bilingual Publications Company
270 Lafayette St.
New York, NY 10012

French and Spanish Book Corporation
115 Fifth Ave.
New York, NY 10003
and
651 Olive St.
Los Angeles, CA 90802

Hispanic Book Distributors, Inc.
1665 W. Grant Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85745

Iaconi Book Imports
1110 Mariposa
San Francisco, CA 94107

Lectorum Publications, Inc.
137 West 14th St.
New York, NY 10011
tel. 800-345-5946

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Books In Spanish Published In the United States

by Isabel Schon

Recommended Titles

Young Spanish-speakers, their parents, and their teachers (as well as the increasing number of students of Spanish worldwide) will certainly rejoice in the rising quality and quantity of books in Spanish now being published in the U.S. With noted exceptions, the following are excellent, fluid Spanish translations of popular English books.

Adler, David A. Illus. by **Wallner, John** and Alexandra. Un libro ilustrado sobre Abraham Lincoln (A Picture Book of Abraham Lincoln). Tr. by Teresa Mlawer. 32p. 1992. Holiday, $14.95 (0-8234-0980-5); paper, $5.95 (0-8234-0989-09).

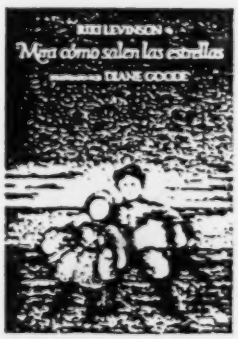
Adler, David A. Illus. by **Wallner, John and Alexandra.** Un libro ilustrado sobre Cristóbal Colón (A Picture Book of Christopher Columbus). Tr. by Teresa Mlawer. 332p. 1992. Holiday, $14.95 (0-8234-0981-3); paper, $5.95 (0-8234-0990-2).

Adler, David A. Illus. by **Casilla, Robert.** Un libro ilustrado sobre Martin Luther King, hijo (A Picture Book of Martin Luther King, Jr.). Tr. by Teresa Mlawer. 32p. 1992. Holiday, $14.95 (0-8234-0982-1); paper, $5.95 (0-8234-0991-0).

Gr. K–3. Like the original English versions, these well-done Spanish translations present information on their subjects from boyhood until death. The easy-to-read texts and the attractive watercolor illustrations make these books just right for primary-age Spanish-speaking readers.

Aliki. La historia de Johnny Appleseed (The Story of Johnny Appleseed). Tr. by Teresa Mlawer. 1992. 32p. illus. Lectorum Publications, $9.95 (0-9625162-6-0)

Gr. 3–5. The story of Johnny Appleseed and his efforts to disseminate apple trees across the new colonies is beautifully retold in an easy-flowing Spanish translation. Aliki's cheerful, alternating watercolor and black-and-white illustrations add just the right zest to this tale of friendship and kindness.



Baden, Robert. Illus. by **Edwards, Michelle.** Y domingo, siete (And Sunday Makes Seven). Tr. by Alma Flor Ada. 1992. 36p. Whitman, $13.95 (0-8075-9355-9).

Gr. 3–6. Spanish-speakers (and those learning Spanish) will enjoy this translation of Baden's retelling of a Costa Rican tale about two cousins. Carlos, who is poor and kind, is rewarded by the 12 witches for adding to their song about the days of the week, while Ricardo, his rich and greedy cousin, receives an unpleasant surprise. The colorful illustrations, which portray scenes of rural Costa Rica, capture the tone and spirit of the lighthearted tale.

Beautier, Francois. Illus. by **Davot, Francois.** Descubrir la tierra (Discovering the Earth). 1991. 96p. Ediciones Larousse; dist. by Millbrook, $15.90 (1-56294-175-5).

Chiesa, Pierre. Illus. by **Henriot, Jean-Louis.** Volcanes y terremotos (Volcanoes and Earthquakes). 1991. 96p. Ediciones Larousse; dist. by Millbrook, $15.90 (1-56294-176-3).

Le Loeuff, Jean. Illus. by **Ageorges, Vèronique.** La aventura de la vida (The Adventure of Life). 1991. 96p. Ediciones Larousse; dist. by Millbrook, $15.90 (1-56294-177-1).

Pouts-Lajus, Serge. Robots y ordenadores (Robots and Computers). 1991. 96p. Ediciones Larousse; dist. by Millbrook, $15.90 (1-56294-178-X).

Gr. 7–12. Originally published by Editions Nathan, France, in 1989–90, this outstanding series introduces readers to the diversity of shapes and forms found on Earth, to ancient and contemporary volcanoes and earthquakes, to the principles of evolution, and to the world of computers and robots. A combination of high-quality photographs, other illustrations, and diagrams in color; a fluid and informative narrative in Spanish; and the appealing design and layout definitely will contribute to adolescents' understanding of these scientific concepts.

Blanco, Alberto. Illus. by **Revah, Patricia.** The Desert Mermaid/La sirena del desierto. English tr. by Barbara Paschke. 1992. 32p. Children's Book Press, $13.95 (0-89239-106-5).

Gr. 3–5. In a lyrical and emotional manner, a desert mermaid describes how her beautiful oasis is growing smaller and her people are disappearing because they have forgotten the songs of their ancestors. The story is set in the beautiful Sonora Desert and illustrated with photographs of colorful woven tapestries that give this bilingual (English/Spanish) story a mythlike quality. The original Spanish text is a special pleasure.

Dabcovich, Lydia. The Keys to My Kingdom: A Poem in Three Languages. 1992. 30p. illus. Lothrop, $14 (0-688-09774-X).

Preschool–Gr. 2. With full-page, color pencil and crayon illustrations that add a childlike quality, this traditional nursery rhyme, which takes readers through a kingdom and through the day in English, French, and Spanish, is a joy to listen to or read in any language.

Day, Alexandra. Carlito en el parque una tarde (Carl's Afternoon in the Park). Tr. by Carmen Malvido. 1992. 32p. illus. Farrar/Mirasol, $11.95 (0-374-31100-5).

Preschool–Gr. 1. Day's humor and sense of adventure, combined with luxuriously textured, brightly hued oil paintings of rottweiler Carl and a happy toddler, make this almost wordless picture book a joyous afternoon in the park. Six easy-to-understand sentences in Spanish are appropriate as introduction and conclusion to this story about a reliable and attentive baby-sitter.

Dyches, Richard W. and **Shaw, Jean M.** Primer diccionario de ciencia (First Science Dictionary). (0-531-07925-2).

Dyches, Richard W. and **Shaw, Jean M.** Primer diccionario de matemática (First Math Dictionary). (0-531-07926-0).

Ea. v.: illus. by **Sornat, Czeslaw.** 1991. 104p. Watts, $15.90.

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Gr. 2–4. As a simple introduction in Spanish to math and science terms, this series might be useful, but the simplistic albeit cheerful cartoons add little to the readers' understanding of the terms. The Spanish definitions are, with a few exceptions, understandable—especially if explained by a helpful adult. Several typos and awkward sentences as well as a clumsy, literal translation of the introductions detract from the value of the series.

Fowler, Allan. El gusto de las cosas (Tasting Things). (0-516-34911-2).
Fowler, Allan. El olor de las cosas (Smelling Things). (0-516-34912-0).
Fowler, Allan. El sol siempre brilla en alguna parte (The Sun Is Always Shining Somewhere). (0-516-34906-6).
Fowler, Allan. Lo que escuchas (Hearing Things). (0-516-34909-0).
Fowler, Allan. Lo que sientes al tocar (Feeling Things). (0-516-34908-2).
Fowler, Allan. Lo que ves (Seeing Things). (0-516-34910-4).
Ea. v.: Tr. by Aída E. Marcuse. 1992. 32p. illus. Childrens Press, $9.45.

Gr. 1–2. Including full-color photographs and simple texts, like previous titles in this series, these six books introduce readers to the five senses and the importance of the sun. Despite their small size—6 1/4 inches by 7 1/4 inches—and generally monotonous tone, these science books for the very young will be welcomed by Spanish-speakers.

Freeman, Don. Un bolsillo para Corduroy (A Pocket for Corduroy). 1992. 32p. illus. Viking, $12 (0-670-84483-7).

Preschool–K. Spanish-speaking fans of the popular Corduroy will be satisfied with this lively Spanish translation. The full-color illustrations of the appealingly portrayed stalwart bear who wants a pocket for himself are the best part of the story.

Heller, Ruth. Las gallinas no son las únicas (Chickens Aren't the Only Ones). Tr. by Alma Flor Ada. Grosset & Dunlap, $10.95 (0-448-40586-5).

Gr. K–2. Like the original English version, first published in 1981, this festive science lesson for young Spanish-speaking readers with buoyant but realistic full-color drawings explains that it's not only chickens who lay eggs. The well-done Spanish translation is just right for scientists-to-be as well as youngsters eager to read or hear about other animals and their eggs.

Koplow, Lesley. Illus. by **Velasquez, Eric.** Tanya and the Tobo Man: A Story for Children Entering Therapy/Tanya y el hombre Tobo: Una historia para niños que empiezan terapia. Spanish tr. by Alexander Contos. 1991. 32p. Magination Press, $16.95 (0-945354-34-7); paper, $6.95 (0-945354-33-9).

Gr. 2–4. The purpose of this bilingual (English-Spanish) story is to help children and their parents to feel more familiar with the therapeutic process. Through Tanya's continuing fear of the Tobo Man, readers are exposed to her mother's apprehensions, visits to a therapist, and the happy results. The black-and-white drawings of a black mother and her daughter are realistic and appropriate. The Spanish translation is adequate though marred by four typographical mistakes.

Levinson, Riki. Illus. by **Goode, Diane.** Mira cómo salen las estrellas (Watch the Stars Come Out). Tr. by Juan Ramon Azaola. 1992. 32p. Dutton, $15 (0-525-44958-2).

Gr. 1–3. This warm story about the immigration period of the late 1800s has been ably translated into Spanish. The gentle illustrations depicting the old-fashioned ambience will charm and inform Spanish-speakers unfamiliar with this period in American history.

Madinaveitia, Horacio. La gran aventura de Don Roberto (Sir Roberto's Little Outing). 1991. 29p. W. W. Publishers, $13.95 (1-879567-02-4).

Gr. 3–5. Don Roberto, an unconventional and brave knight, sets out in search of adventure. In his special way, he defeats the fearsome dragon, saves the kingdom, marries the beautiful princess and returns home where he and his princess live happily ever after. The three-tone, humorous, albeit tiny illustrations are a beautiful complement to the slightly ironic story of chivalry and courage. Unfortunately, the "conversation pieces"—questions framed to help readers express their own thoughts about the themes and issues explored in the story—are unnecessary at best and may encourage well-meaning adults to turn the story into a deadly lesson about courage, friendship, teamwork, and other noble topics.

Mis primeros conocimientos (My First Knowledge). 10v. 1989. Grolier International, $149 (968-33-0527-X).

Gr. 4–7. Originally published in English by Franklin Watts, this series is a collection of high-interest topics that should appeal to students in the middle grades. The excellent Spanish translation (done by Editorial Cumbre in Mexico City) is easy to read and to understand. In addition, numerous full-color illustrations add interest to each topic. Subjects include: pets, transportation, aquatic animals, astronomy, computers, selected sports, volcanoes, earthquakes, dinosaurs, and serpents. As an overview to these topics, the series is definitely worthwhile. This is not, however, a science and nature encyclopedia, as stated in the publisher's catalog.

Roe, Eileen. Illus. by **Casilla, Robert.** Con Mi Hermano (With My Brother). 1991. 32p. Bradbury, $12.95 (0-02-777373-6).

Gr. K–2. In a simple bilingual (English/Spanish) text, a little boy tells why he admires his brother and aspires to be like him. The bold watercolor illustrations of two Latino boys beautifully capture the special relationship between the two brothers. It must be noted, however, that even though this is a relatively good Spanish translation, the bilingual format (English and Spanish sentences on the same page) definitely has a negative effect on one language. In this case the Spanish version, a copy of the English, loses the language's beauty and natural rhythm. In addition, an unfortunate typo in a book with very few sentences in Spanish really stands out.

Ryan, Elizabeth A. Hablemos francamente de las drogas y el alcohol (Straight Talk about Drugs and Alcohol). 1990. 152p. Facts On File, $16.95 (0-8160-2496-0).

Gr. 7–12. In a candid and easy-to-understand manner, the author discusses the physical and social effects of drug and alcohol abuse, how to recognize an addiction, and how to get help for a dependency problem. Adolescents will especially appreciate the author's efforts to avoid lecturing on the evils of these substances and yet present the facts so that readers can reflect and make their own decisions. An excellent translation of a useful and timely book.

Santiago Nodar, Carmen. Illus. by **Paterson, Diane.** El paraíso de abuelita (Abuelita's Paradise). Tr. by Teresa Mlawer. 1992. 32p. Whitman, $13.95 (0-8075-6346-3).

Gr. K–3. Marita tenderly and lovingly reminisces about her grandmother and her descriptions of life in beautiful, rural Puerto Rico. Lush watercolor illustrations of a little girl and her family enjoying life in a pastoral Puerto Rican setting and a simple, fluid Spanish text will make this story a favorite of Puerto Rican families who long for abuelita's paradise.

Shulevitz, Uri. El tesoro (The Treasure). Tr. by Maria Negioni. 1991. 32p. illus. Farrar/Mirasol, $16 (0-374-37422-8).

Gr. 1–3. Shulevitz's time-honored folktale about a poor old man who finds treasure in his own home after a dream directs him to look elsewhere has been appropriately translated into Spanish. The illustrations, full of well-modulated color and striking light use, are as captivating as the originals.

Singer, Isaac Bashevis. Illus. by **Carle, Eric.** Por qué Noé eligió la paloma (Why Noah Chose the Dove). Tr. by Aída E. Marcuse. 1991. 32p. Farrar/Mirasol, $16 (0-374-36085-5).

Gr. K–2. Spanish-speakers will enjoy this exquisite translation of Singer's story of why Noah chose the modest dove as his messenger. Carle's expansive, full-color illustrations—stiff, cutout-style figures that romp gaily to the edges of each big page—are as charming as the originals.

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Zelinsky, Paul O. El enano saltarín, cuento de los Hermanos Grimm (Rumpelstiltskin). 1992. 38p. illus. Dutton, $15 (0-525-44903-5).

Gr. K–2. Zelinsky's exquisite artistic interpretation of the Grimms' tale about a miller's daughter who gets unexpected help from a gnomelike little man in turning hay into gold thread can now be enjoyed by Spanish-speaking youngsters in the U.S. The direct, easy-to-read Spanish text, translated in Spain in 1987, is a real joy to listen to or to read. However, Spanish-speakers in the U.S. might object to one peninsular Spanish conjugation, *Imaginad*. Although recognizable, this inflected verbal form sounds old-fashioned to Spanish-speakers from Latin America and the U.S. This minor caveat is certainly not meant to deter the enjoyment of this wonderful adaptation with jeweled tones and museum-quality illustrations.

Zemach, Margot. Siempre puede ser peor (It Could Always Be Worse). Tr. by Aída E. Marcuse. 1991. 32p. illus. Farrar/Mirasol, $17 (0-374-36907-0).

Gr. K–3. The immensely satisfying tale of a rabbi's response to a poor man's complaint about his terrible life is now available to Spanish-speaking readers with Zemach's original zesty, action-packed illustrations with their strong colors and careful composition. It must be noted that in this otherwise fluid Spanish translation, young Spanish-speaking readers will be confused by the regionalism *como ser, uno o dos pollos*. This usage is too dialect-specific; such regionalisms fail to communicate to larger audiences of Spanish-speakers. (See *Diccionario de dudas y dificultades de la lengua española* by Manuel Seco, Espasa Calpe, 1986, p.106.)

Nonrecommended Titles

It is wonderful to see the new interest of U.S. publishers in publishing books in Spanish for young readers. However, as I noted in a previous column [BKL Ja 1 92], there are still major inadequacies in many of these books. My plea, one more time, is to urge U.S. publishers to take a serious, in-depth look into their translating/publishing efforts. Obviously, U.S. publishers know how to serve the reading needs of young English-speaking readers. And, they are *trying* to serve the needs of Spanish-speakers. But, to do so, they've got to pay attention to what they are doing with their books in Spanish. The following inexcusably inferior recently published books are not recommended.

Bailey, Donna. Las águilas (Eagles). (0-8114-2660-2).

Bailey, Donna. Los delfines (Dolphins). (0-8114-2656-4).

Bailey, Donna. Los osos (Bears). (0-8114-2659-9).

Bailey, Donna. Las ranas (Frogs). (0-8114-2661-0).

Bailey, Donna. Las serpientes (Snakes). (0-8114-2657-2).

Bailey, Donna. Los tiburones (Sharks). (0-8114-2658-0).

Ea. v.: Illus. by **Chasty, Paula.** 1992. 33p. Steck-Vaughn, $11.95.

Gr. 3–5. Numerous vocabulary and grammatical mistakes in every book mar these literal translations. The original English version was published by Heinemann Children's Reference in 1991.

Carle, Eric. La mariquita malhumorada (The Grouchy Ladybug). Tr. by Simon Saad-L'Hoeste. 1992. 46p. illus. HarperCollins, $15 (0-06-020549-0); paper, $5.95 (0-06-443301-3).

Ages 5–8. Carle's bold watercolor illustrations of a grouchy ladybug who is looking for a fight are the best part of this story. The Spanish translation, however, leaves much to be desired; it includes words not in general use as well as clumsy sentence constructions and two incredible spelling mistakes. (It is important to note that as bad as this Spanish translation is, it is not as bad as that of another Carle book, *La oruga muy hambrienta* [*The Very Hungry Caterpillar*].)

Harvey, Bob and Harvey, Diane Kelsay. Illus. by **Johnson, Carol.** A Journey of Hope/Una jornada de esperanza. 1991. 42p. Beautiful America Publishing Company, $12.95 (0-89802-603-2).

Gr. 3–5. The obvious purpose of this bilingual "story" is to help turtles "climb out of their nests of sand and make the long journey to the sea. Forever." So, through Hope, a Ridley sea turtle, children learn about "a journey of hope." The only commendable aspects of this "journey" are the outstanding clear photographs and drawings of a turtle at sea. The English text is schmaltzy at best. The Spanish translation can be used as an example of how *not* to translate bilingual books: it is a literal translation of the English version, hence it lacks the richness and fluidity of the Spanish language. In addition, it has misaccented words, grammatical and spelling mistakes, anglicisms, and other barbarisms.

Keats, Ezra Jack. Silba por Willie (Whistle for Willie). 1992. 32p. illus. Viking, $14 (0-670-84395-4).

Ages 3–7. A most unfortunate incorrect literal translation into Spanish in the only sentence on the first page of the amusing story about Peter, the small boy who longs to be able to whistle for his dog, Willie, will disappoint and confuse Spanish-speakers. Like the original English version, first published in 1964, the colorful illustrations include bits of patterned paper to supplement Keats' joyous paintings. It should be noted that even the book's Spanish title is absurd. *Silba por Willie* means "You Whistle Instead of Willie," which doesn't make any sense. What a misfortune for young Spanish-speakers!

Let's Eat/Vamos a comer (0-671-76927-8).

Let's Play/Vamos a jugar (0-671-76928-6).

Let's Take a Walk/Vamos a caminar (0-671-76929-4).

What Color/¿Qué color? (0-671-76930-8).

Ea. v.: Illus. by **Shirotani, Hideo.** 1992. 18p. Simon & Schuster, $2.95.

Ages 2–5. Only parents desperate for bilingual (English/Spanish) books for their little ones will be interested in these tiny—5-by-5-inch—board books. The insipid, lifeless illustrations are, at times, difficult to figure out and will confuse young learners. In addition, misspelled words and the use of regionalisms—*bodega, chorrera, guineo*—as opposed to standard Spanish words will make it even more difficult for those learning the Spanish language. The sloppy translation is also evident in the occasional use of articles, which are indeed important in Spanish.

Mayorga, Dolores. David Plays Hide-and-Seek in Celebrations/David juega al escondite en celebraciónes. (0-8225-2001-X).

Mayorga, Dolores. David Plays Hide-and-Seek in Folktales/David juega al escondite en cuentos folkóricos. (0-8225-2003-6).

Mayorga, Dolores. David Plays Hide-and-Seek on Vacation/David juega al escondite en vacaciones. (0-8225-2004-4).

Ea. v.: Tr. from the Spanish by Lori Ann Schatschneider. 1992. 24p. illus. Lerner, $14.21.

Gr. 1–4. What an incredible disappointment! Originally published in Spain, these were fun-filled books with tiny, delightful, colorful full-page spreads and enjoyable Spanish texts in which lovers of detail are encouraged to search for David, his two friends, and other objects. Unfortunately, however, these U.S. editions have "adapted" the original, fluid, amusing, well-written, rich Spanish texts into stale, incorrect, awkward, and generally inferior Spanish ones that are full of grammatical, usage, and other mistakes. It appears that the only reason for this U.S. "adaptation" is to facilitate the dull English translation.

My First 100 Words in Spanish and English/Mis primeras palabras en español e inglés. 1992. 12p. Simon & Schuster, $11 (0-671-74965-X).

Ages 4–7. Through this illustrated, bilingual "pull-the-tab" book, children ostensibly will learn words in English and Spanish used in the farm, store, park, town, and home. The idea and physical presentation of this book are outstanding. However, it includes so many obsolete, nonstandard, and misspelled words in Spanish that it is best to find other means to expose children to their "first 100 words in Spanish" (It is interesting to note that no such problems appear in the English words).

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Reading the World

Mexico

by Isabel Schon

Map from Ian James. *Inside Mexico*

Although Mexico shares a 2,000-mile border with the United States, in the minds and hearts of many Americans it is far away. Our southern neighbors are often misunderstood, slighted, or ignored. Stereotyped views of the people as lazy and impoverished prevail, and the country is often considered useless except as a vacation spot. This problem is complicated by the fact that for many years too few books were written about Mexico, and those that were published too often gave a limited or one-sided view of the country. This situation, fortunately, is changing; in recent years the number of good books has increased. Listed here are some high-quality selections that can introduce young readers to the broad panorama of Mexico: its beauty, variety, and joy as well as its sad realities, past and present.

Picture Books

Aardema, Verna. Borreguita and the Coyote: A Tale from Ayutla, Mexico. Illus. by **Petra Mathers.** 1991. 30p. Knopf, $15 (0-679-80921-X).

Preschool–Gr. 2. Borreguita, which means "little lamb" in Spanish, lives on a farm at the foot of a mountain. Her dealings with a persistent coyote who is intent on eating her are retold in a simple and direct manner and depicted against colorful rural scenes.

Balet, Jan. The Fence: A Mexican Tale. 1969. 26p. Delacorte, o.p.

K–Gr. 3. In this delightful story about a poor family that is taken to court for stealing the smell of its rich neighbor's food, the author-artist sensitively and wryly compares the lives, homes, and attitudes of the very rich and the very poor.

dePaola, Tomie. The Lady of Guadalupe. 1980. 48p. Holiday, $14.95 (0-8234-0373-4); paper, $5.95 (0-8234-0403-X); Spanish edition, $14.95 (0-8234-0734-2).

K–Gr. 3. Striking illustrations and poignant text tell the story of Mexico's patron saint, the Lady of Guadalupe, who in 1531 appeared to Juan Diego, a poor Mexican Indian, and directed him to tell the bishop to build a church in her honor.

Doña Blanca and Other Hispanic Nursery Rhymes and Games. Edited by Isabel Schon. 1983. 46p. T. S. Denison, $6.95 (0-513-01768-2).

K–Gr. 6. Eighteen well-known Mexican nursery rhymes and games are included in this bilingual (Spanish-English) publication. Two-tone illustrations and simple instructions explain how to play the games.

Ets, Marie Hall and **Aurora Labastida.** Nine Days to Christmas. Illus. by **Marie Hall Ets.** 1959. 48p. Viking, $13.95 (0-670-51350-4).

K–Gr. 3. The 1960 Caldecott Medal winner tells of Ceci, a middle-class girl in Mexico City, who accompanies her mother to a market to choose the piñata for the upcoming holiday. Scenes of the city, a typical posada, and a traditional market project excitement. *Gilberto and the Wind* (Puffin, paper) is also by Ets; another Christmas story is Ann Tompert's *Silver Whistle* (Macmillan), which takes place in Oaxaca.

Flora, James. The Fabulous Firework Family. 1955. HBJ, o.p.

K–Gr. 3. For generations a Mexican family has made fireworks for its village; now, the maestro, Pepito's father, has been commissioned to construct the finest firework castle yet, to celebrate the birthday of the village's patron saint. The work of building the castle, fiesta day, and the firing of the castle are part of the fast-moving story.

Griego, Margot C., and others. Tortillitas Para Mama and Other Nursery Rhymes: Spanish and English. Illus. by **Barbara Cooney.** 1981. 28p. Holt, $14.95 (0-8050-0285-5); paper, $5.95 (0-8050-0317-7).

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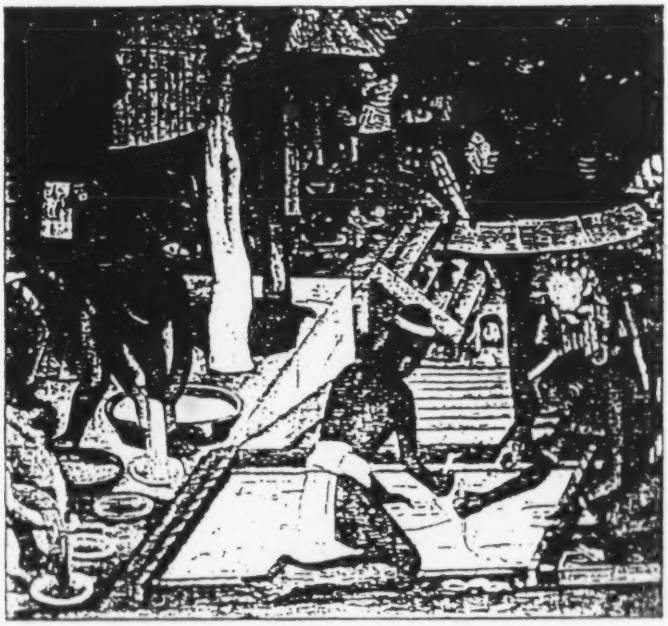

Mural by Diego Rivera from Ian James, *Inside Mexico*

Preschool–Gr. 2. This bilingual collection of 13 well-known Latino nursery rhymes includes favorites that have been passed down through generations. However, many of Cooney's illustrations depict stereotyped scenes of barefooted peasants in quaint, rural settings.

Johnston, Tony. Lorenzo, the Naughty Parrot. Illus. by **Leo Politi.** 1992. 32p. HBJ, $14.95 (0-15-249350-6).

Gr. 2–4. No matter what is happening, the mischievous and personable Lorenzo is in the middle of the action. Politi's warm, authentic artwork adds life to this fun-filled chapter book.

Lewis, Richard. All of You Was Singing. Illus. by **Ed Young.** 1991. 32p. Atheneum, $13.95 (0-689-31596-1).

Gr. 3–6. Lewis and Young capture the nuances of this Aztec myth concerning Earth's creation and the beginning of music.

Martinez, Alejandro Cruz. The Woman Who Outshone the Sun. Illus. by **Fernando Olivera.** Translated by Rosalma Zubizarreta. 1991. 32p. Children's Book Press, $13.95 (0-89239-101-4).

Gr. 2–5. This legend from the Zapotec people of Mexico (narrated in Spanish and English) tells of a beautiful woman who, scorned by the villagers, takes away their precious river as punishment.

Wisniewski, David. Rain Player. 1991. 32p. Clarion, $15.95 (0-395-55112-9).

Gr. 2–5. In this dramatic, original tale set in the ancient Mayan civilization, a young ball player challenges the rain god to a game of *pok-a-tok* to end a terrible drought.

Fiction

George, Jean Craighead. Shark beneath the Reef. 1989. 182p. HarperCollins, $11.89 (0-06-021992-0).

Gr. 6–9. Tomas, 14, is determined to catch a shark, the greatest prize for the Sea of Cortez fishermen. By combining interesting aspects of Mexico's pre-Columbian history with the sad realities of contemporary Mexico (the abuse of government officials) and the personal dilemmas of an adolescent boy, the author has created an exciting coming-of-age story with a Mexican flavor.

Merino, José María. The Gold of Dreams. Translated by Helen Lane. 1991. 217p. Farrar, $14.95 (0-374-32692-4).

Gr. 5–8. Set against the backdrop of sixteenth-century Mexico, this adventure story finds 15-year-old Miguel joining his godfather on a journey to find a rumored temple of gold. Also note Betty Baker's *Walk the World's Rim* (HarperCollins).

Neugeboren, Jay. Polit: A Mexican Boy in Early Texas. Illus. by **Tom Leamon.** 1989. 123p. Corona, $13.95 (0-931722-72-1).

Gr. 6–8. In this compelling story, an honest, courageous Mexican boy, Jose Policarpo Rodriguez (later known as Polit), comes to Texas in 1839 with his father. This fast-moving fictionalized account describes what life was like for Mexicans and Texans, and especially for Mexican Texans, who came of age with Texas during its formative years.

Steinbeck, John. The Pearl. 1947. Viking, $15.95 (0-670-54575-9).

Gr. 7–12. The terror, poverty, ignorance, and lack of hope of the people of a small Mexican town are vividly described in this famous short novel about a great pearl that was found and then lost again. Also note Scott O'Dell's *The Black Pearl* (Houghton), about pearl divers in Baja California.

Treviño, Elizabeth Borton de. El Güero: A True Adventure Story. 1991. 102p. Farrar, paper, $3.95 (0-374-42028-9).

Gr. 4–7. This historical fiction, based on the boyhood adventures of Treviño's father-in-law and set in Baja California, features strong characters and prevailing optimism in an exciting story of survival.

Witton, Dorothy. Treasure of Acapulco. 1963. 191p. Messner, o.p.

Gr. 7–9. In this well-written story, Tony has to save 2,000 pesos in three months or otherwise leave his beloved Acapulco to live in Mexico City with his Uncle Juan. His many adventures with his American friend are played out against the beauty of Mexico City and Acapulco. The friendship between the two is realistically described.

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Folklore

Bierhorst, John. Doctor Coyote: A Native American Aesop's Fables. Illus. by **Wendy Watson.** 1987. 48p. Macmillan, $15.95 (0-02-709780-1).

Gr. 1–3. These 20 fables, adapted by Indian retellers in the 1500s and retold by Bierhorst, a well-known translator of Aztec and American Indian literature, have a distinct Aztec flavor. Soft pastel watercolors convey the essence of each fable. Older readers will appreciate the author's documented collection *Hungry Woman* (Morrow).

Bierhorst, John. Spirit Child: A Story of the Nativity. Illus. by **Barbara Cooney.** 1984. 32p. Morrow, $13.95 (0-688-02609-5).

Gr. 3–6. The Aztec culture and the Christian religion are beautifully intertwined in Bierhorst's carefully translated story and Cooney's stunning pre-Columbian-style illustrations of the Nativity.

Blackmore, Vivien. Why Corn is Golden: Stories about Plants. Illus. by **Susana Martinez-Ostos.** 1984. 48p. Little, Brown, $12.95 (0-316-54820-0).

Gr. 3–5. This intriguing collection of six Mexican pre-Columbian legends and riddles about plants, flowers, and fruits is strikingly illustrated. Other titles in the series include Toni de Gerez and William Stark's *Song Is a Piece of Jade: Poems of Ancient Mexico in English and Spanish*, Francisco Hinojosa and Leonel Maciel's *The Old Lady Who Ate People: Frightening Stories*, and Marcos Kurtycz and Ana Garcia Kobeh's *Tigers and Opossums: Animal Legends* (all Little, Brown).

Brenner, Anita. The Boy Who Could Do Anything and Other Mexican Folk Tales. Illus. by **Jean Charlot.** 1992. 132p. Shoe String/Linnet, $17.50 (0-208-02353-4).

Gr. 3–6. Recently reissued, this highly diverse and outstanding collection of 26 short, authentic folktales includes such delightful tales as "The Boy Who Took Care of the Pigs" and "The Magic Grocery Store."

Kouzel, Daisy. The Cuckoo's Reward/El premio del cuco. Illus. by **Earl Thollander.** 1977. 32p. Doubleday, o.p.

K–Gr. 3. This attractive adaptation of a Mayan legend tells why the gray cuckoo lost its splendid feathers and beautiful singing voice and why it lays its eggs in the nests of other birds. Written in both English and Spanish, the story will appeal to children who speak either language.

Lattimore, Deborah Nourse. The Flame of Peace: A Tale of the Aztecs. 1987. 48p. HarperCollins, $13.95 (0-06-023708-2); paper, $5.95 (0-06-443272-6).

Gr. 2–6. Magnificent illustrations show the joy and vigor of Aztec culture in this somewhat confusing story about a young Aztec boy who outwits nine evil lords of the night to get the flame of peace from Lord Morning Star. The author has also created the amusing *Why There Is No Arguing in Heaven: A Mayan Tale* (HarperCollins).

Lyons, Grant. Tales the People Tell in Mexico. 1972. 94p. Messner, o.p.

K–Gr. 3. This collection of popular tales shows the wit, wisdom, and flavor of Mexico. Included are animal tales, stories that portray the life of the rich in Mexico, and a varied selection of Mexican sayings. Also note Juliet Piggott's *Mexican Folk Tales* (Crane Russak, o.p.).

Rohmer, Harriet and **Mary Anchondo.** How We Came to the Fifth World/Como vinimos al quinto mundo: A Creation Story from Ancient Mexico. 1988. 24p. Children's Book Press, $10.95 (0-89239-024-7).

Gr. 3–6. Bright, bold, primitive-style illustrations complement the easy-flowing language of this bilingual (Spanish/English) Aztec tale, which recounts the creation and destruction of the world by the Aztec deities.

Biography

Cockcroft, James. Diego Rivera. 1991. 119p. Chelsea House, $17.95 (0-7910-1252-2).

Gr. 7–12. Numerous details regarding Rivera's tumultuous personal life, "unconventional behavior," and communist ideas are vividly reported alongside his artistic achievements both in the U.S. and in Mexico. Disappointingly, only eight color photographs of Rivera's paintings are included; the other illustrations, though well selected, are small black-and-white photographs and do not do justice to the artist's vibrant murals.

Drucker, Malka. Frida Kahlo: Torment and Triumph in Her Life and Art. 1991. 160p. Bantam, $16.50 (0-553-07165-3).

Gr. 7–12. The life and work of Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera's one-time wife and one of Mexico's best-known female artists, are presented with great understanding and sensitivity. In a compelling manner, the author tells about Kahlo's youth, adolescence, tragic accident, life with Rivera, and experiences as an artist and as a woman.

Durán, Gloria. Malinche: Slave Princess of Cortez. 1993. 221p. Shoe String/Linnet, $17.50 (0-208-02343-7).

Gr. 6–9. A fictionalized biography of Doña Marina, a noblewoman who was sold into slavery and given as tribute to Cortés, and who became his interpreter in his campaign to conquer Mexico.

Hargrove, Jim. Diego Rivera: Mexican Muralist. 1990. 127p. Childrens Press, $11.95 (0-516-03268-2).

Gr. 5–8. This accurate biography of renowned Mexican artist Diego Rivera is presented in a fluid and straightforward man-

Mexican Independence Day

The 16th of September is Mexico's Independence Day celebration. Plan a festival for the entire school, with songs, poems, and tales from Mexico to be sung or read aloud. Talk about Mexican heroes, such as Hidalgo and Juárez, play Mexican music, and display Mexican flags. Invite a Mexican American to come to the school or library to talk about the holiday and perhaps give his or her childhood remembrances of it.

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ner. The author describes the numerous personal, political, and artistic controversies in which this great muralist was involved throughout his life. Unfortunately, only black-and-white illustrations are used. Also note Ann Neimark's *Diego Rivera: Artist of the People* (HarperCollins).

Ragan, John David. Emiliano Zapata. 1989. 111p. Chelsea House. $16.95 (1-55546-823-3).

Gr. 7–12. Through the life and times of Zapata, readers are exposed to the Mexican Revolution, the first of the great revolutions of the twentieth century, and introduced to some of Mexico's most controversial leaders, such as Porfirio Díaz, Pancho Villa, and Victoriano Huerta. Note also Ronald Syme's *Zapata: Mexican Rebel* (Morrow).

Rouverol, Jean. Pancho Villa. 1972. 208p. Doubleday, o.p.

Gr. 7–12. This excellent biography of a very controversial Mexican figure describes Villa's illiteracy and the hardships of his life. The author writes about a violent man, with many weaknesses and strengths, who was a product of his times and circumstances.

Treviño, Elizabeth Borton de. Juárez: Man of Law. 1974. 142p. Farrar, o.p.

Gr. 3–6. Simply written, this biography emphasizes Juárez's personal attributes and his dedication to setting up laws that guaranteed equal rights. Juárez's life and work are honestly presented, as are Mexico's problems of misery and ignorance.

Villacana, Eugenio. Viva Morelia. 1972. 64p. M. Evans, $6.95 (0-87131-098-8).

Gr. 3–6. The author, who was born in the state of Michoacan, touchingly describes his life with his Spanish father and Indian mother. The illustrations depict middle-class homes, well-dressed children, a bullfight, trips to such cities as Quiroga and Patzcuaro, and school days and holidays.

Wepman, Dennis. Benito Juárez. 1986. 116p. Chelsea House. $17.95 (0-87754-537-5).

Gr. 5–9. Wepman's excellent biography of one of Mexico's greatest presidents traces his life from a young age through his education as a lawyer and his struggle to enact reforms in legislation. Another good biography about this man is Ronald Syme's *Juarez: The Founder of Modern Mexico* (Morrow).

Winter, Jonah. Diego. Illus. by **Jeanette Winter.** 1991. 40p. Knopf, $12 (0-679-81987-8).

Gr. 3–6. Young readers are introduced to the life and work of Diego Rivera through delightful watercolor illustrations, reminiscent of the murals of this renowned Mexican artist, and a brief bilingual (English/Spanish) text.

Close Up:

Using James *Inside Mexico*

Show students the photographs in this or one of the other photo-essays on the list and suggest they plan a coffee-table book about Mexico. They will need to map the regions to be covered, choose the sites to be photographed (a limit might be set to have the exercise be more challenging), and plan the itinerary of the photographer. Then, with photos cut from old magazines or photocopied from books, the students can put together their own photo-essay and write appropriate captions based on their research.

Information Books

Bateman, Penny. Aztecs and Incas: AD 1300–1532. Illus. by **Rob Shone.** 1988. 32p. Watts, $11.90 (0-531-10622-5).

Gr. 4–7. This book successfully mixes photographs, maps, and colorful drawings with a simply written text to give a clear overview of the Aztec and Inca civilizations.

Calderwood, Michael and **Gabriel Brena.** Mexico, a Higher Vision: An Aerial Journey from Past to Present. Photos by **Michael Calderwood.** 1990. 192p. ALTI Publishing, 4180 La Jolla Village Dr., Ste. 520, La Jolla, CA 92037, $49.95 (0-9625399-5-3).

Gr. 6–10. This spectacular, large-format publication for adults, organized by geographical area, shows the beauty and diversity of the Mexican landscape in some of the best color photographs of Mexico ever published. A brief introduction to each region highlights its history, environment, and special characteristics.

Díaz Del Castillo, Bernal. Cortez and the Conquest of Mexico by the Spaniards in 1521. 1988. 165p. Shoe String/Linnet, $17.50 (0-318-37415-3).

Gr. 7–10. Originally published in 1942, this handsome volume gives an eyewitness account of a soldier of fortune who traveled with Cortés as he and his followers defeated the Aztecs and laid claim to their territory and treasures for Spain. Illustrated with sixteenth-century Indian drawings of the conquest. Also note Albert Marrin's *Aztecs and Spaniards: Cortés and the Conquest of Mexico* (Atheneum).

Glubok, Shirley. The Art of Ancient Mexico. 1968. 41p. HarperCollins, o.p.

Gr. 3–5. Glubok offers insightful photographs of the temples, religious objects, decorative ornaments, jewelry, weapons, and painted books (codices) of the pre-Columbian Aztec, Mixtec, Toltec, Olmec, and Zapotec civilizations.

Haskins, Jim. Count Your Way through Mexico. Illus. by **Helen Byers.** 1989. 22p. Carolrhoda, $10.95 (0-87614-349-4).

Gr. 4–7. While leading readers through the numbers 1 to 10 in Spanish, the author imaginatively introduces basic aspects of the history, folklore, arts, foods, and animals of Mexico. The soft color-pencil illustrations round out the simple text.

Irizarry, Carmen. Passport to Mexico. 1987. 48p. Watts, $12.60 (0-531-10271-8).

Gr. 4–8. The direct and easy-to-read narrative, numerous full-color photographs, and well-conceived charts and maps provide the reader with a basic introduction to the country's geography, economy, and life-style.

James, Ian. Inside Mexico. 1989. 32p. Watts, $11.40 (0-531-10761-2).

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Gr. 4–8. James discusses the land, history, people, arts, economy, industry, and other aspects of Mexico through direct text accompanied by numerous outstanding photographs; one of the best introductions to Mexico today.

Johnson, William Weber. Baja California. Edited by Time-Life. Photos by **Jay Maisel.** 1972. 184p. Time-Life Books, o.p.

Gr. 6–12. Remarkable color photographs and an enthusiastic narrative present the reader with a fascinating view of the dry, long, and rocky peninsula of Baja California.

Lye, Keith. Take a Trip to Mexico. 1982. 32p. Watts, $7.99 (0-531-04471-8).

Gr. 2–4. Mexico's geography, sights, and prominent places are described in this photo-filled book that includes a map, a list of key facts, and a time chart.

McKissack, Patricia. Aztec Indians. 1985. 48p. Childrens Press, $7.95 (0-516-01936-8).

Gr. 2–4. McKissack's easy-to-read text and excellent graphics showcase the history, religion, language, customs, and final days of this pre-Columbian civilization. Also note the author's companion volume, *The Maya* (Childrens Press).

Meltzer, Milton. Bound for the Rio Grande: The Mexican Struggle, 1845–1850. 1974. 279p. Knopf, o.p.

Gr. 7–12. In this well-researched account, Meltzer presents both sides of the Mexican War through letters, diaries, and writings of Mexican and American people who lived at the time.

Mills, Bronwyn. The Mexican War. 1992. 117p. Facts On File, $17.95 (0-8160-2293-X).

Gr. 7–12. Mills chronicles the causes and events of the Mexican War from its early rumblings to its end in 1848. Scattered maps and reproductions of old photographs are included and a reading list is appended.

Moran, Tom. A Family in Mexico. 1987. 32p. Lerner, $8.95 (0-8225-1677-2).

Gr. 3–6. Attractive full-color photographs and an appealing narrative feature nine-year-old Paula Maria Fosado, who lives in a small city in southwestern Mexico. Through her daily activities, readers learn basic facts about the life and interesting customs of a middle-class family. Another resource is Carlos Somonte's *We Live in Mexico* (Watts).

Neurath, Marie. They Lived Like This: The Ancient Maya. Illus. by **John Ellis.** 1966. 32p. Watts, o.p.

Gr. 4–6. Authentic drawings based on Mayan wall paintings and designs and a straightforward text describe outstanding aspects of Mayan civilization: pottery, agriculture, gods, cities, religious buildings, pyramids, jewelry, ceremonies, wars, houses, astronomy, the calendar, and mathematics.

Stein, R. Conrad. Mexico. 1984. 126p. Childrens Press, $10.95 (0-516-02772-7).

Gr. 4–8. The amazing variety and contrasts in Mexico's geography, history, economy, culture, government, and people are interestingly described in this well-written introduction to our neighbor to the south. The author honestly describes the problems of Mexico (severe unemployment, poverty, and smog in Mexico City) but, regrettably, there are a large number of misaccented, misspelled, or misused Spanish words.

Resources

- **Faces.** The June 1990 issue is devoted to ancient Mexico and includes a recipe for quesadilla, directions for playing patolli, instructions for making a tree of life, and an illustrated glossary of ancient gods.
- **Parke, Marilyn** and **Sharon Panik.** A Quetzalcóatl: Tale of the Ball Game. Illus. by **Lynn Castle.** 1992. 48p. Fearon Teacher Aids, P.O. Box 280, Carthage, IL 62321, $8.95 (0-86653-962-X); Spanish edition, $8.95 (0-86653-961-1); teacher's guide, $8.95 (0-86653-960-3). This brightly illustrated paperback tale also has a teacher's guide (available in English only) that gives background information, activities, a short bibliography, and reproducibles. A companion volume, *A Quetzalcóatl: Tale of Corn*, is also available in English and Spanish editions and with a teacher's guide.
- **Shalent, Phyllis.** Look What We've Brought You from Mexico. 1992. 48p. Messner, paper, $6.95 (0-671-75257-X). This collection of crafts, games, recipes, stories, and other cultural activities demonstrates the many contributions Mexico and Mexican Americans have made to the U.S.
- **Stencils: Ancient Mexico.** Five easy-to-do art projects with punch-out stencils are available along with basic information about the country and its myths and games. Order for $9.95 from GoodYearBooks, Scott-Foresman, 1900 East Lake Ave., Glenview, IL 60025. ■

Close Up:

Using Mills' *The Mexican War*

After reading about this unpopular war (Henry David Thoreau went to jail rather than pay taxes to help finance it), students might compare it to the Vietnam War and its controversy and unpopularity.

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